



ZFW

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02887.0259

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Junji SUGAMOTO et al.) Group Art Unit: 2891
)
Application No.: 10/706,090) Examiner: Smith, Bradley
)
Filed: November 13, 2003) Confirmation No. 7292
)
For: SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER)
TREATMENT METHOD,)
SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER)
INSPECTION METHOD,)
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE)
DEVELOPMENT METHOD AND)
SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER)
TREATMENT APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

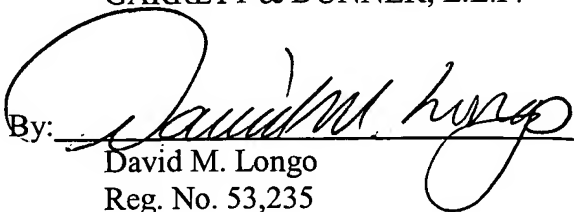
In the Restriction Requirement mailed March 29, 2006, with a period for response extending to May 1, 2006 (April 29th being a Saturday), the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I (claims 6, 8-25, and 32-34) and Group II (claims 26-31). Applicants elect to prosecute Group I, claims 6, 8-25, and 32-34, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to a method, without traverse.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 1, 2006

By: 
David M. Longo
Reg. No. 53,235